

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN IN THE WILDERNESS

MINUTES OF THE VESTRY MEETING JANUARY 21, 2023

The January Vestry meeting was called to order at 11:05 a.m. by Fr. Josh Stephens, our Rector. Those attending included: Fr. Ian Williams, our Curate, Senior Warden, John Barker, Junior Warden, Will Rodriguez, Clint Adams, Elizabeth Christenbury, Patrice German, Laura Meherg Teel, Marisa Pharr, Kim Sanders, and Jennifer Shelton. Absent were E.R. Haire, Jerry Hall, and Lynn Wiescholek.

Fr. Ian opened the meeting with a prayer.

Acceptance of Consent Agenda for January: Will made a motion to accept all committee reports for January as well as the minutes of the December Vestry meeting; the motion was seconded by Clint and was passed.

Rector's Report: Fr. Josh reported on the highlights of special events from December and January and outlined assignments including Gatekeepers and meeting devotions as well as Vestry Committee assignments. He also discussed Safe Church Training. Vestry members received information about the required training to be completed online.

Treasurer's Report: Tom reported that the 2022 budget year ended with a surplus. Total income was at 101% of the pledges for the year. He also noted that through December 31, Outreach disbursements totaled \$143,345. This is a record, compared to a full-year total of \$133,268 in 2021, and \$82,668 in 2020.

In addition to medical coverage for our staff, Tom discussed salary increases for 2023. The recommendation is a 3% across-the-board salary increase for all staff. In addition, Fr. Ian's salary increase of 5% was mandated by the diocese.

After discussion, Will made a motion to approve the salary increases. Marisa seconded the motion, and it was unanimously passed by the Vestry.

Will made a motion to approve the Budget for 2023, and Elizabeth seconded the motion, and it was passed.

Jennifer made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report; Kim seconded the motion, and it was passed.

Senior Warden's Report: John reported that the new year has started with finance and planning meetings in the first three weeks.

Junior Warden's Report: In his report, Will discussed plans for 2023 which include meeting with the Church Sexton every week to review the status of the ongoing upkeep,

maintenance, and planned capital projects. He met with the Parsonage resident to examine the condition of the building. Will discussed projects for the current year which include the painting of Parsonage shutters and window frames; painting of the Education Building; Hemlock tree removal; purchase of a new audio system in the church; and general maintenance of the golf cart, HVAC, and Dehumidifier, alarm system, and other routine inspections and cleanings. Future projects to be considered include churchyard lighting along the walkways and paths and the construction of a new maintenance shed.

Old Business: Clint provided an update on the 2023 Stewardship Report. To date, 97.6 % of the targeted number of pledges have been received, representing a total of 91.7% of the targeted budget. However, it was noted that pledges typically continued to be made throughout the year with new members coming into the church.

Following a prayer from the *Book of Common Prayer* led by Fr. Ian, the January Vestry meeting adjourned at 11.52 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret A. Barker
Clerk of the Vestry